

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

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AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209935

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PARM; UN
SUBJECT: NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE
REFERENCE: GENEVA 4594; US NATO 4876; IAEA VNNA 8528;
USUN 4146 (ALL NOTAL).

1. ARTICLE VIII(3) OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT) CALLS FOR A CONFERENCE OF PARTIES IN GENEVA FIVE YEARS AFTER ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY, IN ORDER TO "REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THIS TREATY WITH A VIEW TO ASSURING THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE PREAMBLE AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY ARE BEING REALIZED." THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE NPT WILL BE MARCH 5, 1975, AND TREATY PARTIES AND OTHERS WILL EXPECT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE TO TAKE PLACE REASONABLY SOON AFTER THAT DATE.

2. THE US REGARDS THIS CONFERENCE AS VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE NPT AND FOR OUR POLICY OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIF-ERATION. A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE CHARACTERIZED BY SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF THE OPERATION OF THE TREATY WILL HELP DEMONSTRATE THAT THE NPT IS CONTRIBUTING SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE SECURITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF STATES, ALIGNED AND NON-ALIGNED, ARE COOPERATING EFFECTIVELY TO PREVENT PROLIFERATION. BY CONTRAST, AN UNSUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE COULD JEOPARDIZE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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FUTURE OF THE NPT.

3. WE ANTICIPATE THAT NUMEROUS UNGA DELEGATIONS WILL EXPECT THE NPT CONFERENCE TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE DEBATE ON DISARMAMENT ITEMS IN FIRST COMMITTEE AND TO BE THE SUBJECT OF A UNGA RESOLUTION. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT SOME ACTIVIST NON-ALIGNED STATES MAY TRY, THROUGH SUCH A RESOLUTION, TO PREDETERMINE THE SCOPE AND ORGANIZA-TION OF THE CONFERENCE, AND PERHAPS EVEN TO MAKE THE UN RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANIZING THE CONFERENCE. SWEDEN, IN PARTICULAR, ANNOUNCED AT THE CCD THAT IT INTENDED TO PROPOSE THAT THE UNGA ESTABLISH A PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT ORGANIZATION WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR ORGANIZING

THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE. WHILE THIS IDEA HAS APPARENTLY ATTRACTED LITTLE INTEREST TO DATE, IT OR SIMILAR SUGGESTIONS COULD CONCEIVABLY ATTRACT SUPPORT IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE IN THE ABSENCE OF MORE ACCEPTABLE PROPOSALS, AND COULD LEAD TO CONTENTIOUS AND UNPRODUCTIVE DEBATE.

4. THE US INTENDS TO WORK ACTIVELY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE OTHER DEPOSITARIES (UK AND USSR) AS WELL AS OTHER PARTIES, TO ASSURE THAT THE CONFERENCE RESULTS IN A RESPONSIBLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE TREATY REVIEW, AS INTENDED BY THE DRAFTERS OF THE NPT. MOREOVER, AS A LEADING PARTY AND A DEPOSITARY OF THE NPT, WE CONSIDER IT APPROPRIATE AND IN OUR INTEREST TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE, TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER DEPOSITARIES, IN INITIATING CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS. DECISIONS CONCERNING THESE PREPARATIONS SHOULD IN OUR VIEW BE MADE BY NPT PARTIES RATHER THAN THE UN MEMBERSHIP AS A WHOLE.

5. WE HAVE ALREADY HELD PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WITH THE UK AND USSR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUGUST 1973 POSITION PAPER FOR THE US CCD DELEGATION (COPIES OF WHICH HAVE BEEN SENT TO USUN). IN THEIR INITIAL REACTIONS, BRITISH AND SOVIET OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE US APPROACH TO THE BASIC ISSUES REGARDING THE CONFERENCE AND ITS PREPARATION. IN VIEW OF THE NEED TO FORESTALL OR COUNTER EFFORTS BY OTHERS TO PREJUDICE CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS, WE BELIEVE CONFIDENTIAL

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WE SHOULD NOW SEE WHETHER WE AND THE OTHER DEPOSITARIES CAN GO FORWARD WITH A SPECIFIC COURSE OF ACTION FOR DEALING WITH NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE ISSUES.

6. USUN SHOULD ACCORDINGLY BEGIN TO WORK WITH THE UK AND SOVIET DELEGATIONS ON THE FOLLOWING BASIS:

(A) THE DELEGATIONS OF THE THREE DEPOSITARIES SHOULD DEVELOP OR ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT OF A BRIEF AND SIMPLE RESOLUTION THAT WOULD BE WIDELY ACCEPTABLE TO NPT PARTIES. THE RESOLUTION SHOULD NOTE THAT THE NPT CALLS FOR A REVIEW CONFERENCE FIVE YEARS AFTER ENTRY INTO FORCE AND SHOULD AUTHORIZE THE UNSYG, IN COOPERATION WITH IAEA, TO PROVIDE STAFF SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR THE CONFERENCE AND FOR ITS PREPARATIONS. (WE WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE THE UN SECRETARIAT GIVEN A SUBSTANTIVE ROLE IN THE CONFERENCE OR ITS PREPARATIONS.) IN ADDITION, THE RESOLUTION COULD NOTE THAT A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE IS TO BE FORMED BY DEPOSITARIES IN CONSULTATION WITH NPT PARTIES, IF THIS APPEARS DESIRABLE IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE CONSENSUS.

(B) THE THREE DELEGATIONS SHOULD SEEK TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS AMONG NPT PARTIES AT THE UNGA IN FAVOR OF DESIGNATING A REPRESENTATIVE GROUP OF NPT PARTIES TO ACT

AS A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE. THE US POSITION PAPER OUTLINES POSSIBLE CRITERIA FOR SUCH A COMMITTEE. OUR PREFERENCE WOULD BE A COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF NPT PARTIES THAT ARE MEMBERS EITHER OF THE CCD OR OF THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS, (CAPITALS OF STATES THAT WOULD BE REPRESENTED ON THE COMMITTEE UNDER THESE CRITERIA ARE INCLUDED AMONG INFO ADDRESSEES.) OTHER POSSIBILITIES OUTLINED IN THE POSITION PAPER, SUCH AS AN AD HOC COMMITTEE NAMED BY THE DEPOSITARIES WITH THE ASSENT OF OTHER PARTIES, WOULD ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE. ALTHOUGH WE WOULD PREFER A RELATIVELY SMALL BODY THAT INCLUDES KEY NPT PARTIES, OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO ACHIEVE A CONSENSUS WHEREBY CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS CAN GO FORWARD ON A COOPERATIVE, NON-CONTENTIOUS BASIS. FOR THIS REASON WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE A COMMITTEE OPEN TO ALL NPT PARTIES THAT WISH TO PARTICIPATE (AN IDEA RECENTLY MENTIONED BY THE BRITISH), IF THIS APPROACH SHOULD APPEAR NECESSARY TO GAIN CONSENSUS.

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(C) THE DELEGATIONS OF THE DEPOSITARIES SHOULD DISCOURAGE OTHERS, BOTH PARTIES AND NON-PARTIES, FROM PRESSING FOR RESOLUTION AT THIS UNGA OF ISSUES CONCERNING THE SCOPE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE, ON THE GROUNDS THAT SUCH MATTERS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH BY THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE. NPT PARTIES WOULD OF COURSE BE FREE TO COMMUNICATE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS TO THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE ONCE IT IS FORMED.

EFFORTS TO RESOLVE ISSUES DURING THE UNGA, HOWEVER, OR TO INVOLVE THE FIRST CO

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BONN
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BUCHAREST

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